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LETTER DATED 18 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter addressed to you by Mr. Karen Babourian, the President of the Parliament of Nagorny Karabakh.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this statement as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

In view of the recent intensification of the attacks of the Azerbaijani armed forces on the defence positions of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh, the aerial bombings of the civilian population, the continuing Azerbaijani violations of United Nations resolutions and of the cease-fire agreements between Nagorny Karabakh and Azerbaijan, the Parliament of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh requests an urgent meeting of the Security Council to condemn these Azerbaijani operations.

The Republic of Nagorny Karabakh views with skepticism the informal consultations held by the Security Council on 17 August 1993 to discuss military operations and the situation in different Azerbaijani cities. It is surprising that the Security Council could convene such consultations based only on the selective visits of the United Nations representative in Azerbaijan, on the distorted information of the Azerbaijani side and in the general absence of information that might contradict the tenor of the report.

In letters addressed to the United Nations on 23 July and 4 August 1993, the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh appealed to the Security Council to dispatch representatives to the region and to engage actively in the establishment of a cease-fire and the acceleration of the peace process. Our letters have been left unanswered. Simultaneously, the Security Council has refused to condemn Azerbaijani military operations, the deportations of the civilian population of Nagorny Karabakh, and the shelling of the civilian population by heavy weapons, including bombardment by war planes. By refusing to condemn such Azerbaijani policy, the Security Council, in fact, has condoned the continuing Azerbaijani military operations which have recently intensified because of Azerbaijani domestic political instability and the struggle for power.

The military operations undertaken by the self-defence forces of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh serve self-defence purposes exclusively, something which the United Nations and other international organizations have failed to provide to our people.

With regard to the events of the last week, we confirm, on behalf of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh, that the military operations are concentrated on two hills situated on the border of Nagorny Karabakh in the Fizuli area that constitute the defence line of our borders recently subjected to Azerbaijani attacks and now successfully defended by our forces.

The Government of the Azerbaijani Republic is fully responsible for the consequences of the military operations it undertakes.

The Government of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh hopes that at this time the Security Council will be impartial in its assessment of the situation and will condemn Azerbaijan for its actions. The Republic of Nagorny Karabakh is prepared to receive the representatives of the United Nations to examine the situation on the ground and to provide them with all the necessary information.

Karen BABOURIAN
President
Parliament of the
Republic of Nagorny Karabakh